

gree, to the situation which exists at this moment. Every man should be able to put aside subjects that are closed, and act in any emergency which presents itself with an open mind and in such manner as he thinks for the best interests of the country.

"We require above all else, in the highest affairs of trust and power, not only men of integrity and character, but primarily men who can see into the future, and who will not be content with doing only those things which become obviously necessary. Had this nation been led by vision the war would have been already won."

The call to Roosevelt which Mr. Barnes had signed bore the signatures also of all the other Eepublican leaders in the State, who had not only bitterly opposed Eoosevelt in the past but had denounced him repeatedly as a man who could not be trusted with power because of his radical pro- fessions and tendencies. Like Mr. Barnes, they all by their appeal to Eoosevelt made public profession of faith in his character and ability and, consequently, public confession of the untruth and injustice of their previous assertions.

Like the verdict in the Barnes trial, the call was a vindication of Eoosevelt at the hands of his political enemies.

But gratifying as this vindication was to him, he could not be persuaded by it to become a candidate. On July 22, 1918, he wrote a letter to Morton C. Lewis, that was published on the following day, in which he said:

"I cannot be a candidate nor accept the nomination for Governor of New York. For the past four years

my whole
being has been absorbed in the consideration
of the tre-
mendous problems, national and
international, created by
the war. I cannot turn from them with any
heart to deal
with any other subjects. . . . My work is for
the men who
are fighting in this war."

Innumerable letters and telegrams of
sympathy reached
him after Quentin's death was confirmed. He
replied to
only a few of these. Among his replies were
the following: